

MONTHLY FIRE WEATHER/FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK

1. **REPORTING UNIT:** Eastern Great Basin Coordination Center

2. **DATE:** 28 December 2005 **valid for** January 2006

3. POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS/CRITICAL FIRE PROBLEMS

THIS COMING MONTH	BELOW NORMAL		NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	
THIS SEASON	BELOW NORMAL		NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	

COMMENTS:

4. FIRE WEATHER OUTLOOK:

DROUGHT CONDITIONS: Drought conditions in Idaho have moderated with indices in the abnormally dry to moderate range. Utah remains normal with a few abnormally dry areas in the southeast portions.

PRECIPITATION ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK: Precipitation was near normal for the first 28 days of December with much above normal precipitation (180-200%) in south central Idaho – northwestern Utah and in the east central area of Utah and much below normal (30-50%) in southern Utah and northeast Idaho around the Salmon-Challis NF. Snowpack is at 100-125% of normal in Idaho and northern and central Utah and western Wyoming while the southern areas of Utah are well below normal at 30-50% snowpack.

Precipitation for **January will be normal to slightly above normal in Idaho, western Wyoming and northern Utah. Southern Utah will be below normal.**

TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK: Persistent strong ridge over Great Basin kept temperatures 2-3 degrees above normal in southwestern Utah and western Wyoming. However, cold air managed to make it into Idaho, keeping most areas 3-6 degrees below normal. The rest of the area was near normal.

The temperature outlook for Eastern Great Basin for **January** calls for **normal to slightly above normal temperatures.**

5. FUELS

FINE - GRASS STAGE	GREEN		CURED	X		
NEW GROWTH	SPARSE		NORMAL		ABOVE NORMAL	

6. **5 YEAR AVERAGE FIRE OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED** (through month of December):

Total: 1,026 fires/226,701 acres

7. **ACTUAL OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED** (through December 22, 2005):

Total: 2,158 fires/953,362 acres

8. **WRITTEN SUMMARY:** Fire danger will be **normal** for January. Slight potential exists for occasional small fires less than ten acres, mostly human caused, below the snow line in fine and dormant fuels. Suppression efforts will be effective.

9. RESOURCES: Discontinued for the season.

10. FIRE POTENTIAL:

